

State of Utah

Department of **Natural Resources**

> MICHAEL R. STYLER Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

> JOHN R. BAZA Division Director

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July 12, 2005

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT 7002 0510 0003 8603 3271

Joseph Scott Rees, President Round Valley Rock, Inc. 2235 Rees Lane Morgan, Utah 84050

Initial Review of Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations, Subject:

Round Valley Rock, Inc., Round Valley Rock Mine, M/029/004, Morgan

County, Utah

Dear Mr. Rees:

The Division has completed our review of your draft Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations for the Round Valley Rock Mine, located in Morgan County, Utah, which was received June 7, 2005. The attached comments need to be addressed before tentative approval is granted.

The comments are listed under the applicable Minerals Rule heading; please format your response in a similar fashion. Please address only those items requested in the attached technical review by sending replacement pages of the original mining notice using redline and strikeout text, so we can see what changes have been made. After the notice is determined technically complete and we are prepared to issue final approval, we will ask that you send us two clean copies of the complete and corrected plan. Upon final approval of the permit, we will return one copy stamped "approved" for your records. Please provide a response to this review by August 31, 2005.

The Division will suspend further review of the Round Valley Rock Mine Notice of Intention until your response to this letter is received. If you have any questions in this regard please contact Lynn Kunzler or me. If you wish to arrange a meeting to discuss this review, please contact us at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your cooperation in completing this permitting action.

Sincerely,

Susan M. White

Mining Program Coordinator

Minerals Regulatory Program

Juan M. White

SMW:lk:jb

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REVIEW OF NOTICE OF INTENTION TO COMMENCE LARGE MINING OPERATIONS

Round Valley Rock, Inc. Round Valley Rock Mine

M/029/004 July 12, 2005

R647-4-105 - Maps, Drawings & Photographs

105.2 Surface Facilities Map

Please show the location of explosive magazines and storage areas. (DJ)

105.3 Drawings or Cross Sections (slopes, roads, pads, etc.)

A minimum of two cross-sections through the mine area should be included in the plan showing the surface before mining, after mining and after reclamation. (DJ)

Map 3 & 3A included in the plan are identified, as the reclamation treatments maps do not show the required information. The map should show areas of the site with the various reclamation treatments shaded, cross-hatched or color coded to identify which reclamation treatments will be applied. Areas should include: roads, proposed drainage improvements or reconstruction, and sediment control structures, topsoil storage areas, waste dumps, disposal areas for overburden. Reclamation treatments may include ripping, regrading, replacing soil, fertilizing, mulching, broadcast seeding, drill seeding and hydroseeding. (DJ)

The plan states topsoil sites are indicated on Map 2. There are no topsoil pile locations shown on this map. Please show these locations. (DJ)

The plan states that all other areas that are or will be disturbed including roads, highwalls, etc will be treated in such a way as to maximize revegetation so as to protect against soil erosion and wastewater contamination. Please state in the plan what these treatments will be for each of these areas. (DJ)

R647-4-106 - Operation Plan

106.5 Existing Soil Types

Soils data provided in the NOI show limited soil resources available for salvage. Physical and Chemical properties of the soils show that what is available would be suitable for reclamation with minimal amendments required. A variance was requested and approved for the original 5-acre small mine for not salvaging soil. Other overburden materials appear to be suitable for reclamation with minimal amendments being added (composted manure at a rate of 10 ton per acre would suffice). A request was made to extend the approved soil salvaging variance to the large mine area. Refer to comments under R647-4-112. (LK)

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106.9 Location & size of ore, waste, tailings, ponds

This section refers back to section 106.2 and maps 3 & 3A for location and size of ore and waste stockpiles. There is no mention of the waste piles in section 106.2 and the location of the overburden piles is shown on maps 2 & 2A. Please correct this oversight. (DJ)

R647-4-107 - Operation Practices

107.5 Suitable soils removed & stored

See comments under R647-4-112. (LK)

R647-4-109 - Impact Assessment

109.4 Slope stability, erosion control, air quality, safety

Has an air quality permit been issued by the State Dept. of Environmental Quality? If so, please provide the permit number. Please describe measures to control fugitive dust on roads, stockpiles, etc. (LK)

R647-4-110 - Reclamation Plan

110.2 Roads, highwalls, slopes, drainages, pits, etc., reclaimed

Please indicate in the plan what the treatments will be for the pit access roads and internal roads that may be constructed during the mining of the initial 19 acres of mining. (DJ)

Slope reclamation will be accomplished by grading to a three to one slope followed by a number of practices including; contour ripping, pitting, top soil replacement (where possible) and reseeding. Will all of these practices be used after the slopes are recontoured? (DJ)

110.4 Description or treatment/disposition of deleterious or acid forming material The plan does not state whether there will be equipment fuel and lubrication items stored

at the site. Please indicate if these items will be stored at the site. (DJ)

Drilling for blasting will be taking place at the site. Please state whether blasting agents will be stored at the site. If they are to be stored in the area, please mark the location on the maps included with the plan. (DJ)

110.5 Revegetation planting program

Please provide a plan for revegetating disturbed areas. This plan needs to discuss seedbed preparation, seeding (species, rates, method of seeding, timing (October preferred seeding time), and amendments needed (overburden materials will need approximately 10 ton per acre of composted manure). Attached is a recommended seed mix. If acceptable, please incorporate it into your mine plan. (LK)

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R647-4-111 - Reclamation Practices

111.1 Public safety & welfare

1.14 Posting warning signs

A sign indicating the blasting protocol used at the site should be posted at the entrance to the pit. (DJ)

1.15 Constructing berms/fences above highwalls

Berms or fences should be constructed above the highwalls to warn the public of the dangers. (DJ)

R647-4-112 - Variance

A variance was requested for salvage of and redistribution of existing soils. Justification for this variance is the limited amount of soils available and safety concerns to salvage these soils due to steep terrain coupled with rocky outcroppings and ledges. By using overburden materials amended with composted manure, it is expected that the reclamation standards will be met. This variance may be approved with a commitment to amend the overburden materials with 10 ton per acre of composted manure to assure revegetation establishment. (LK)

R647-4-113 - Surety

Please provide an estimation of the average height and size of the two overburden dumps at the completion of this plan. (DJ)

Attachment: Seedmix

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Recommended Revegetation Species List for

Round Valley Rock, Inc. Round Valley Rock Quarry S/029/004

Prepared by DOGM June 5, 1995

Common Name Intermediate wheatgrass Bluebunch wheatgrass Orchard Grass	Species Name Agropyron intermedium Agropyron spicatum Dactylis glomerata	*Rate lbs/ac (PLS) 1.5 2.5 0.5
Basin Wildrye Ladak Alfalfa	<u>Elymus cinereus</u> <u>Medicago sativa</u>	1.5 0.5
Yarrow	Achillea millefolium	0.3 0.1
Palmer penstemon	Penstemon palmeri	0.5
Small burnet	Sanguisorba minor	1.0
Mountain big sagebrush	Artemisia tridentata vaseyana	0.1
4-Wing Saltbush	Atriplex canescens	1.5
Rubber rabbitbrush	Chrysothamnus nauseosus	0.25
Forage kochia	<u>Kochia prostrata</u>	0.5
Bitterbrush	<u>Purshia</u> tridentata	1.0
	Total	11.45 lbs/ac

^{*}This is the recommended broadcast seeding rate.